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Patent
Response Under 37 CFR 1.116
Expedited Procedure
Examination Group 1724

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:

Robert H. Moffett

CASE NO.: CH2814 US NA

SERIAL NO.: 09/898,437

GROUP ART UNIT: 1724

FILED: 07/03/2001

EXAMINER: Peter Hruskoci

FOR: Phosphorus Reduction in Aqueous Streams

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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Sir:

Responsive to the June 12, 2002 Office action, applicant submits the following amendments and remarks. A marked-up version of the amended claims is shown in the **APPENDIX**. The amendment is believed to place the claims in condition for allowance. Applicant therefore requests that the amendment be entered.

The examiner has not responded to applicant's argument made in the response to the first Office Action that Chung et al is a non-analogous art that cannot be used for a rejection. Applicant therefore requests that the final rejection be withdrawn.

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (amended) A process to remove phosphorus from an aqueous stream, which comprises phosphorus, comprising: (a) adjusting pH of the stream to a pH of at least 7 by adding a calcium-containing compound; (b) adding one or more metal ions selected from the group consisting of zinc and manganese ions to the stream wherein the metal ion is present in the range of from about 0.01 to about 10,000 ppm, based on weight of the stream; (c) adding a silica-based anionic inorganic colloid to the stream; and (d) adding an organic polymer at about 0.01 to about 10,000 ppm, based on weight of the stream, to produce a flocculated mass.

5. (amended) A process to remove phosphorus from an aqueous streams, which comprises phosphorus, comprising (a) adjusting pH of the stream to a pH of at

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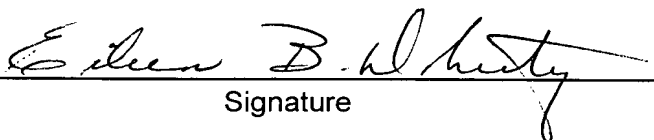
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